

Project Nomination and Evaluation Criteria Coastal Impact Assistance Program (CIAP)

1. Project Title:

- Baptiste Collette and Tiger Pass Channel Deepening/Beneficial Use

2. Entity/Individual Nominating the Project:

- Benny Rousselle, Plaquemines Parish President
- Andrew MacInnes, Plaquemines Parish Coastal Zone Administrator
- Plaquemines Parish Coastal Zone Advisory Committee

3. Contact Information:

- Andrew MacInnes
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4. Total CIAP Funds Requested: **> \$80,000,000.00**

5. Parish CIAP Funds Requested: **To Be Determined**

6. State CIAP Funds Requested: **To Be Determined**

7. Infrastructure Funds Requested: **To Be Determined**

8. Description and Location of Project:

- The proposed project seeks to deepen and widen two passes of the Mississippi River: Baptiste Collette and Tiger Pass. All dredged material from the passes would be strategically pumped into open water cells along each of the passes for marsh creation. Both channels are located in the Venice vicinity on either side of the Mississippi River.

- Currently, the Corps maintains a channel depth of 12 feet for each channel. Each channel is essential for navigational and recreational use, and the deepening of the channels would help to lure oil and gas activity back to the Venice area as the current authorized dredging depths are insufficient for some of the larger draft vessels the oil and gas industry uses. Each channel would be dredged to a depth of 24 feet, resulting in a massive amount of spoil material that could be utilized for direct marsh creation on either side of each pass. Estimates of the amount of material that will be dredged to achieve the desired depth are in the neighborhood

of 9 million cubic yards. DNR has prepared initial cost estimates for this project (prepared by Greg Grandy).

9. Project Type:

- Conservation, restoration and protection of coastal area, including wetlands.
- Mitigation of damage to fish, wildlife and natural resources.
- Planning assistance and administrative costs of CIAP compliance

10. Project Justification:

1. Sediment delivery is the most effective way to rebuild/recreate marsh
2. The two Passes constantly accumulate new sediment, thus the need for continuous dredging
3. Dredging to an increased depth will result in increased economic and commercial activity for Plaquemines Parish
4. A potential cost-share agreement could be reached with the Corps who currently maintains the two channels

11. Project Cost Share (Types and amounts of non-CIAP funds proposed, if any):

- Plaquemines Parish would like to cost-share the project with DNR (amount and/or percentage to be determined). The project could be separated into two project areas for planning, design and construction implementation.